

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/808,124

Applicant(s)

POTTER ET AL

Examiner

Art Unit

Teresa E. Strzelecka

1637

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed May 6, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 91-101,103,110-112,114-117,119 and 120.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 3/15/01,12/14/04,5/5/05 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

JEFFREY FREDMAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to an after-final amendment filed May 6, 2005. Claims 91-101, 103, 110-112, 114-117, 119 and 120 were previously pending. Applicants did not amend any claims.
2. Applicants' submission of corrected sequence listing obviated the rejection of claims 91-101, 103, 110-112, 114-117, 119 and 120 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. The terminal disclaimer filed May 6, 2005 obviated the provisional obviousness double-patenting rejection of claims 91, 100, 107, 110-112, 114, 115, 117, 119 and 120 over claims 19, 20, 22, 23, 25, 26, 28 and 29 of the co-pending application No. 09/847,157.
3. Applicants' amendment to the specification renders moot the objection to specification with respect to description of Fig. 8.

Drawings

4. The drawings (Fig. 8A-8C) were received on May 6, 2005. These drawings are accepted.

Terminal Disclaimer

5. The terminal disclaimer filed on May 6, 2005 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date of a patent granted on the application No. 09/845,157 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Applicants' invention is an MMLV reverse transcriptase in which a wild-type amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6 which comprises a mutation in at least one amino acid position selected from the group consisting of Tyr64, Arg116, Lys152, Gln190, Thr197 and Phe 309 or Val223 to His 223 substitution. No

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references were found teaching or suggesting an MMLV reverse transcriptase with a wild-type amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6 which contains such mutations.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Teresa E. Strzelecka whose telephone number is (571) 272-0789. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30-5:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Benzion can be reached on (571) 272-0782. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TS
June 7, 2005


JEFFREY FREDMAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

6/10/05